

Harvest impacted my life from a very young age. Having grown up going on harvest, I believe I have gained a perspective on life most people my age do not get. The people I have met on the harvest run have impacted my life in ways I will never be able to thank them properly for. They have been a huge factor in the way I look at people, knowing that there are people who are not “family” that will treat you as if you are. For example, my cousin and I were going to visit my dad and had a major accident; other harvesters in the area stepped in and comforted us in the down time. Growing up not knowing a stranger has helped me to be less uncomfortable in situations where I am meeting new people.

Patience, understanding and time management are a few of the major characteristics I have learned from harvest. Patience has taught me that no matter how hard you try, you cannot change Mother Nature. I have learned to be more understanding because tempers tend to get short when things are not going our way. The most important of the lessons I feel is time management. You must be able to manage to get things done in a day when you might have to drop everything you are doing to run errands. This has helped me to be prepared for the ups and downs life throws at me.

My involvement in harvest has included being full-time cook from the age of 14, which also includes the responsibilities of laundry and cleaning. I have become a combine driver, parts runner, and all around “go-fer” throughout the years. Hopefully, by the time harvest comes around this summer, I will have obtained my CDL. I am looking forward to furthering myself as well as our company with this achievement.

I am currently attending Hutchinson Community College and next spring I will continue my education at either Wichita State University or Fort Hays State University to earn my Bachelors degree in Business/Accounting.